

accord extra

Association of Christian Counsellors and Pastoral Care UK

ACC Covid 19 Crisis - Counselling Support Service

The following are experiences that volunteer counsellors have shared about working as part of the ACC Covid-19 Crisis: Counselling Support Service.

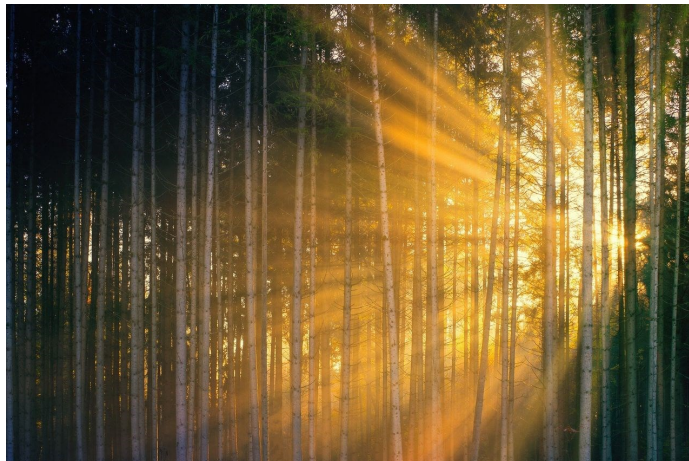
We were able to share some of them in Accord, but there were too many responses to include them all.

Thank you to everyone who has shared in this way and to everyone who has been part of the scheme.

Ros Baldwin

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this service which has been very moving and a real privilege. I wanted to volunteer as it was a way to give back, when the country was reeling with the pandemic. It was something I could offer to do. I received a referral from you, which I followed up, feeling a little anxious as I didn't know what to expect.

The experience has been so inspiring, and a huge privilege to have the opportunity to support a lovely couple as they tried to come to terms with the death of their son/stepson from Covid 19. They are finding a way forward after the trauma and isolation, and as lockdown eases they are able now to get a little more support from family and friends. We will continue to meet for a few more weeks yet. They say it has been a great help to them, particularly initially when they were so cut off from all support, and that they look forward to 'seeing' me each week.



It really has and is a pleasure to have been part of this service.

Joy Tompson

I volunteered my time to ACC Covid-19 Crisis counselling Service because as a former NHS staff member, I felt this was the least I could do for my colleagues. It has proven to be a privilege working in this capacity and one client has apparently publicised the Service very widely within their own place of work, particularly praising the swiftness of its availability.

Anonymous

I cannot begin to say how much I have feel blessed to help the NHS and those bereaved by Covid. The clients have been so thankful for the support and I feel very privileged to be able to help them in this hour of need. I just wish I could do more.

Accord magazine and membership

Accord magazine is available to Members of ACC, who also receive access to discounts on ACC events nationally and regionally.

Benefits of counselling membership with ACC include:

- Registration with the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care
- Networking opportunities

- Ethical guidance
- Compassionate complaints process (independent support for the counsellor and the complainant)
- Discounts on insurance
- Discounted advertising in Accord
- Free entry in the 'Find a Counsellor' facility on the ACC website

Follow the links below for details about:

- [Counsellor memberships](#)
- [Pastoral Care memberships](#)
- [Friends memberships](#)

Heather Barton

At a point when the NHS were stretched to the limit, and nurses were pleading with people to stay indoors, I wondered what I could do to help, using the skills that I have. Then I heard about CCSS! It seemed to be the ideal opportunity to help, and I filled in the application. Having not previously done any online counselling I found what information I could to give me some knowledge. I managed to master the intricacies of zoom and was linked with a client. Having thought that online counselling would be second best to face to face, I have now had to revise my thinking. I have found it to be an excellent way of counselling. I am working through issues with my client, who feels she has definitely benefited. For me, however, the experience has been transformational. I have gained much more than I have given. I now have private clients online, which I may not have had the confidence to do without first doing CCSS. Thank you ACC for setting this up. I'm sure many people have gained from it, in more ways than one!

Anne Dean

I had several reasons for volunteering for the Counselling Support Service; I had been so impressed with the way the ACC had responded to the Covid-19 crisis that I wanted to respond in kind, many of my clients had suspended counselling so I had time on my hands and was personally aware of the huge mental health cost to our medical staff during the crisis. I always feel very privileged to listen to client's stories, but this has never been truer than now, listening to the toll this crisis has taken on frontline staff has been humbling. My hope and prayer is that I may, in some small way, be helping them find a place of restoration

